



Department of State **TELEGR**

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ARI: R780009-0401

EXCISE

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/DOV: G MATTHEWS:GM
APPROVED BY S/MS: M D SHULMAN
NSC:RBATRHOLOMEN (INFO)
H: B ATWOOD
ARA: V VAKY
S/S: F WISNER
S/S-0: SVALARGA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>J.L. SMITH</u>	DATE <u>NOV 3 0 1984</u>
CLASSIFICATION EXTENDED	
EXTENSION REASON(S) DATE <u>OADR</u>	
REASON EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/> <u>CDC HEND</u>	
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> <u>5/13/83</u>	
RELEASE DENIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>IN PART</u>	
FOI or FOI EXEMPTIONS <u>B-1</u>	

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NODIS REVIEW	
<u>Cat. A</u>	Caption removed: Transferred to O/FADRC
Cat. B	Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S
Cat. C	Caption and custody retained by S/S
Reviewed by:	<u>[Signature]</u>
Date:	<u>11 Feb 1984</u>

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, UR, US, CU

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS ON MIG-23'S IN CUBA

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2. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE (ON IF
ASKED BASIS) PREPARED FOR NOVEMBER 15 NOON PRESS
BRIEFING:

Q. WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THE REPORT THAT THERE ARE MIG-23
AIRCRAFT IN CUBA?

A. A LIMITED NUMBER OF THESE AIRCRAFT ARE NOW IN CUBA
AND WE HAVE HAD THIS MATTER UNDER ACTIVE INVESTIGATION
AND CAREFUL STUDY FOR SOME TIME.

Q. WHEN DID WE FIRST BECOME AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF
THE MIG-23'S IN CUBA?

A. WE HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THIS MATTER FOR SOME TIME. AS
YOU KNOW, THIS IS A MATTER INVOLVING OUR INTELLIGENCE
COLLECTION CAPABILITIES AND WE DO NOT COMMENT ON

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INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.

Q. DO WE CONSIDER THE PRESENCE OF THESE AIRCRAFT IN
CUBA A VIOLATION OF THE 1962 UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
SOVIET UNION?

A. WE ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING THIS MATTER TO DEVELOP THE
FACTUAL SITUATION. WE REGARD WITH THE UTMOST SERIOUSNESS
UNDERSTANDINGS OF THIS CHARACTER WITH THE SOVIET UNION
AS WELL AS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, THIS IS A

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QUESTION WE ARE CAREFULLY INVESTIGATING.

Q. ARE THE MIG-23'S NUCLEAR-CAPABLE?

A. AS I HAVE SAID, WE ARE PURSUING THE MATTER ACTIVELY TO DEVELOP THE FACTS.

Q. WILL THIS HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS?

A. WE SEE NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Q. WILL IT HAVE AN EFFECT ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH CUBA?

A. THIS IS A MATTER WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED AS PART OF OUR INVESTIGATION OF THE OVERALL QUESTION.

Q. HAVE WE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE SOVIETS ABOUT OUR CONCERN OVER THEIR SENDING THESE AIRCRAFT TO CUBA?

A. I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THIS POINT. I CAN ONLY SAY THAT WE ARE MONITORING THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

Q. HAVE WE TAKEN IT UP WITH CUBA?

A. NO COMMENT.

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Q. HAS THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP BEEN BRIEFED?

A. (TAKE IT).

3. YOU ARE RECEIVING BY SEPTTEL A NOVEMBER 15 COLUMN BY EVANS AND NOVAK WHICH GIVES A SENSATIONALIZED ACCOUNT OF THE MIG-23 AIRCRAFT IN CUBA.

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